

May God continue to bless America.

GOP JOB-CREATING AGENDA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, when I go home every weekend and talk to my constituents, there are two things that they ask me repeatedly: What can be done about jobs, and what can be done about energy prices?

My constituents understand the colossal failure of the Obama stimulus bill. My constituents understand that government can create jobs only for more government bureaucrats. And those bureaucrats will have to justify their existence by creating more regulations that will kill more private sector jobs.

The liberal Democrats in Congress keep asking for a Republican jobs bill. Well, Mr. Speaker, we have passed at least 15 jobs bills. We have them outlined on this card, as my two colleagues before me talked about, and they are shown on jobs.gop.gov. We've passed at least 15 jobs bills that will help the private sector do exactly what Americans are asking us to do, which is to create jobs through growth in their businesses and allowing new businesses to form.

The liberal elite keep buying into the failed theory that government will create millions of jobs. The reality is that unless we provide the private sector with an environment that is conducive to job creation, jobs will be hard to come by.

Mr. Speaker, I remember the cost of a gallon of gasoline when President Obama was sworn in, it was \$1.85. Today, it is at least \$3.45, an 86-percent increase—and it was a 100-percent increase until very recently. Republicans have addressed this with legislation that increases American energy production, provides us with energy security, and lowers our dependency on Middle Eastern oil.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans listen to the American people. We are acting to provide business owners and entrepreneurs the tools that they need to create jobs and at the same time reduce the cost of energy. We have advanced legislation that will help our constituents in these two very important ways: by helping businesses and their communities hire people, and by reducing the cost of energy.

But what has happened to legislation that will put Americans to work and lower energy costs? Democrat intransigence. The Senate has had these bills for months now and has failed the American people by refusing to take action. Senate Democrat Majority Leader REID recently said: "It's very clear that private sector jobs are doing just fine." This failure to accept the reality that the job-killing, anti-growth policies of this administration and the liberal elites are the key contributors

to the 9.1-percent unemployment rate that continues to be in the United States.

The liberal Democrats keep pushing for what is almost a carbon copy of the failed Obama stimulus that cost the taxpayers almost \$1 trillion without having the slightest positive impact on unemployment and the economy. Now President Obama and the liberal elites are asking to do it all over again—more spending, fewer jobs.

The administration wants to continue to pick winners and losers and fund unproven technologies that cost the taxpayers billions with little or no return. One shining example—if that's the way you want to look at it—is the Solyndra fiasco. The administration acted like a venture capital firm and squandered half a billion dollars, leaving the taxpayer holding the bill.

Mr. Speaker, while the liberal elites in the House and Senate keep thinking that the private sector—the job-creating sector—is doing fine, House Republicans will continue to craft and pass legislation to help job creators, to lower energy prices, and to improve the economy. And I encourage Americans to learn about this on their own through jobs.gop.gov.

CALLING ON THE SENATE TO PASS JOBS BILLS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. HERGER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, this House has sent numerous jobs bills to the Senate in an effort to get our Nation back to work.

I want to call particular attention to the 3 percent withholding repeal legislation I authored, which passed the House with overwhelming bipartisan support just last week. This legislation will help many small businesses create more jobs, and the Senate should act on it without further delay. The House-passed bill would eliminate a burden on job creators by repealing a tax that requires government agencies to withhold 3 percent of all payments for goods and services.

As someone who comes from a small business background, I can attest that although this provision does not take effect until the end of next year, it hurts job creation now because businesses look several years ahead when they are deciding how to invest. It is not surprising that over 150 businesses, health care, education, and local government groups support passage of this legislation. In addition, over 400 Members of the House of Representatives have voted for it, and President Obama has endorsed it, as well as Representative BLACK's associated cost-saving measure.

Instead of waiting for more stimulus bills that face bipartisan opposition, the Senate should work with the House to pass jobs bills like this one that is supported by both parties.

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There are already 15 jobs bills passed by the House that are being delayed unnecessarily, and 3 percent withholding repeal joins those forgotten 15 in waiting in our U.S. Senate and by our Senate colleagues. The House version of this repeal continues to have strong bipartisan support.

The Senate has heard from job creators just as we have about the need for this legislation, and they should work with us in passing commonsense jobs bills, starting with the repeal of the 3 percent withholding tax.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY) for 4 minutes.

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I'm the author of one of the bills sitting in the Senate, the "forgotten 15." This is a bill that will instantaneously create 20,000 jobs and spin off a potential 100,000 to 200,000 additional jobs and put us on the path to energy security. I'm talking about the pipeline bill, the Keystone XL pipeline.

Now, that bill was passed on a massive bipartisan vote, 279-174, one of the best bipartisan showings of nonsuspension bills. It was placed on the Senate calendar on July 28. We held a press conference asking the Senate to take it up. We sent a bipartisan letter to the majority leader asking him to place it on the calendar for vote.

This bill just simply set a timeline for the President and State Department to make a decision. Then, it was November 1. We sit here on this day, November 4—I think it's the 4th—and the President just said 2 days ago to a local Omaha TV station anchorman that he'll make a decision in a few months.

Well, I would encourage the Senate to take up this bill; change the date, obviously, maybe to December 1 or December 15 or December 31. But the reality is this permit for this pipeline is 1,142 days old. That's double the record time for any other transcontinental pipeline—double.

Yes, there is a political storm about environmental safety. This trans-Canadian pipeline has been studied more than any other pipeline. The environmental assessments say this is the most secure pipeline ever designed and has little to no impact to the environment of the sand hills of Nebraska and the underlying aquifer.

Now, since all of the studies have shown there's little to no risk to the environment and pipelines remain the safest way to transport oil to our United States refineries, this puts us on a path to energy security. In fact, the 700,000 barrels that come from our friend Canada offset the oil we import from Venezuela. And even the Department of Energy said that this will almost offset all of OPEC oil. I think that secures our Nation.